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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 14, 1973

THOMAS J. SCOTT, CHIEF CLERK
WM. W. WOODRUFF, COUNSEL

Mr. Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Professor Lederberg:

Thank you for your letter of January 29 urging continued support for the Training Grants program of the National Institutes of Health.

As you may know, the Committee, in acting on the FY 1973 Labor-HEW appropriation bill, made the following comments regarding NIH research training:

The Committee is convinced that the time has come--and, indeed, is past due--to restore the research fellowship and training programs to the level at which they were before the subtle policy of attrition was put into effect. It has, accordingly, added \$46,782,000 to the bill which, together with the House increases for these programs, will restore them to their FY 1969 level and provide a reasonable base for their future growth.

In the subsequent House-Senate Conference, we were successful in persuading the House to accept 40% of the Senate increase. While this is not as much as some would have liked, the additional \$18 million for research training was clearly a step in the right direction.

Unfortunately, the President has twice vetoed the Labor-HEW appropriation bill which would have provided a more nearly adequate level of funding for research training. Moreover, the FY 1974 budget indicates his intent to accelerate his assault on biomedical research and research training. This is very discouraging and depressing.

Nevertheless, our subcommittee will soon be reviewing the budget for fiscal years 1973 and 1974 when we will clarify the issues involved and see if there is any reason to change the views we have expressed on the matter in the past.

MAGNUSON

Thank you for writing and sharing your views. Please be assured that they will receive careful consideration when the Congress again attempts to properly fund priority programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Warren G. Magnuson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Warren" being more prominent and the last name "Magnuson" following in a similar style.

Warren G. Magnuson
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Labor-Health, Education
and Welfare

WGM:D:b